



ASSOCIATION OF  
FAMILY AND  
CONCILIATION COURTS



eNEWS

June 2017

## IN THIS ISSUE

### AFCC Webinars

### Early-to-Mid Career Network

### AFCC-AAML Conference

## Important Information Regarding the AFCC Website

To better service our members, the AFCC website will be undergoing a major database conversion. As a result, the member section of the website will be down for construction until June 28. This includes access to the *Family Court Review*, membership renewals, the member directory, conference registrations, webinar archives. If you need assistance during this time, please call the AFCC office, 608-664-3750.

## AFCC 54th Annual Conference Wrap Up

The AFCC 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference was a huge success. With over 1160 attendees, representing 18 countries, this makes it the second largest conference AFCC has ever hosted. Thank you to everyone who joined us in Boston. We hope to see you at next year's annual conference in Washington DC. Make sure to

MONTHLY  
E-NEWSLETTER

VOL. 12 NO. 6

Special thanks to  
our Conference  
Sponsors



ESDAILE, BARRETT, JACOBS & MONE



mark your calendar, June 6-9, 2018. The Call for Proposals will be available by the end of July.

### Certificate of Attendance

If you need a certificate of attendance, please [click here](#) to sign in and access it online. If you did not purchase a certificate in advance, you will be prompted to do so before you print. The certificate is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members.

### Session Evaluations

Don't forget to evaluate the sessions you attended as well as the overall conference. AFCC takes these evaluations into consideration when planning for future conferences. To access the session evaluations, [click here](#).

### Giving Thanks

This conference would not have been possible without the help of many people and organizations. Thank you to the Massachusetts Chapter of AFCC and its Board of Directors; our [conference sponsors](#), [collaborating organizations](#), [conference program committee](#), [conference shepherds](#), presenters, [exhibitors](#), advertisers, dine around leaders, hospitality suite hosts, auction donors, volunteers and bidders, and all attendees!

### Congratulations Award Winners

AFCC presented its awards at the AFCC 54th Annual Conference in Boston. Congratulations to all award recipients:

- **John E. VanDuzer Distinguished Service Award** was presented to Arnie Shienvold;
- **Stanley Cohen Distinguished Research Award** was presented to Robert H. Mnookin;
- **Irwin Cantor Innovative Program Award** was awarded to the Informal Domestic Relations Trial program;
- **Meyer Elkin Essay Award** was presented to Robert Schnider, Lyn R. Greenberg, and Lynda Doi Fick posthumously;
- **Tim Salius President's Award** was presented to Robert E. Emery, Ruth Stern posthumously, and J. Herbie DiFonzo,

  
SCHMIDT & FEDERICO, P.C.  
Counsellors at Law



Essential toolkit for co-parenting

### Save the Date [AFCC-AAML Conference](#)

Advanced Issues in Child  
Custody: Evaluation,  
Litigation and Settlement  
September 14-16, 2017  
Westin San Diego  
San Diego, California

### [AFCC Regional Conference](#)

Beneath the Surface of  
High Conflict and Troubled  
Families  
November 2-4, 2017  
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

### [AFCC Chapter Conferences](#)

#### [Australia Chapter Annual Conference](#)

Decisions! Decisions!  
Decisions!  
August 17, 2017  
Crown Conference Center  
Melbourn, Australia

#### [Florida Chapter Annual Conference](#)

Serving Families in  
Transition: Educate,  
Inspire, and Empower  
September 25-27, 2017  
The FL Hotel &

- and the **Special Commendation** to Massachusetts Probate and Family Court.

Congratulations to all and thank you for your contributions to AFCC and the field.

## NEW AFCC Webinar Series



Due to the popularity of AFCC's Webinar Series a new webinar will be offered every month with increased capacity for attendance. If you are interested in creating an interactive learning environment, follow the lead of the AFCC Wisconsin Chapter and invite colleagues to participate in a

brown bag lunch, webinar and discussion. [Here is the report from Wisconsin.](#)

[See the schedule](#)

## Early-to-Mid Career Network Spotlight

Kristin Doeberl and Liana Shelby are the outgoing AFCC Fellows for the 2016-2017 year, and as part of the Fellowship, they learned about AFCC (specifically its structure and leadership) throughout the year by attending conferences and Board meetings, participating in the *Guidelines for Social Science Research in Family Law* Task Force work, and presenting at the Boston conference. Additionally, the two formed the Early to Mid-Career (E2M) Networking Group.

[Read more](#)

## AFCC-AAML Conference Registration Now Open

Conference Center at the  
FL Mall  
Orlando, Florida

### **Colorado Chapter Annual Conference**

October 13-15, 2017  
Breckenridge, Colorado

### **Ontario Chapter Annual Conference**

Breaking Down Barriers:  
Targeting Resources to  
Meet Families Needs  
October 19-20, 2017  
Toronto Reference Library  
Toronto, Ontario

### **Arizona Chapter Annual Conference**

January 26-28, 2018  
Hilton Sedona Resort  
Sedona, Arizona

#### **EDITOR:**

Leslye Hunter  
[lhunter@afccnet.org](mailto:lhunter@afccnet.org)

#### **ASSOCIATE EDITOR:**

Corinne Bennett  
[cbennett@afccnet.org](mailto:cbennett@afccnet.org)



[afccnet.org](http://afccnet.org)

Join AFCC and AAML in sunny San Diego, California for the 2017 Conference on *Advanced Issues in Child Custody: Evaluation, Litigation and Settlement*, September 14-16, 2017 at the Westin San Diego. Don't miss this exceptional, advanced-level training opportunity. Registration is open now! The AFCC registration page will be down from June 21 through June 27. If you would like to register during this time, please fax, or scan and email [this form](#) to the AFCC office or call and a friendly member of the AFCC staff will take your registration over the phone.



[Read the brochure](#)

## Welcome Newly Elected AFCC Officers

Please welcome our new members of the AFCC Executive Committee:

- **President** Annette T. Burns, JD, Phoenix, Arizona;
- **President Elect**, Hon. Dianna Gould-Saltman, Los Angeles, California;
- **Vice President** Matthew J. Sullivan, PhD, Palo Alto, California;
- **Secretary** Larry Fong, PhD, Calgary, AB, Canada;
- **Treasurer** Mindy F. Mitnick, EdM, MA, Edina MN;
- **Past President** Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD, ABPP, Northampton, MA,
- Ann M. Ordway, JD, PhD, Signal Mountain,

Congratulations to new members of the AFCC Board of Directors:

- Leslie Drozd, PhD, Newport Beach, CA;
- Hon. Linda Fidnick, Northampton, MA;
- Kathleen McNamara, PhD, Fort Collins, CO (Board of Directors Chapter Liason).

Thank you to departing Board members Hon. Peter Boshier, Magistrate Richard Altman, and Hon. Diana Bryant.

## Thank You Scholarship Fund Donors

Thanks to your generosity, the AFCC Resource Development Fund was able to provide 35 full conference scholarships and 10 travel stipends. We are proud of the opportunities you have

given to the recipients and we are confident they make a lasting difference in their practice and careers. [Thank you to everyone who donated to the 2016-2017 appeal!](#)

## AFCC Member News

The Family Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona awarded three lifetime achievement and contributions to Family Law at the State Bar Convention to current AFCC President **Annette T. Burns** and AFCC members **Hon. Patricia Trebesch**, and **Hon. Alyce Pennington**. Congratulations, all!

AFCC member **Lesley Goldsmith**, MA, has been promoted to Judicial Case Manager at the Bristol County Probate and Family Court. Congratulations, Lesley!

AFCC Member **Dr. Linda Neilson**, New Brunswick, Canada, recently published an e-book, *Responding to Domestic Violence in Family Law, Civil Protection & Child Protection Cases*. This bench book was cited by the United Nations as one of Canada's major family violence works in the United Nations' (2012) Handbook for National Action Plans on Violence Against Women. It was also cited as the model to follow when developing similar practice materials for judicial use throughout Australia in Australia Law Reform Commission and New South Wales Law Reform Commission (2010) Family Violence — A National Legal Response. To read the e-book, [click here](#).

## Chapter News

Congratulations to AFCC Chapters in **Wisconsin** and **Ontario** for the largest membership growth in 2017-18. Wisconsin had the largest percentage increase (18%) while Ontario had the largest number of new members (55). Each chapter was awarded \$2,500. This coming year, a \$5,000 award will be presented to the chapter with the largest percentage increase.

**Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC)**

6525 Grand Teton Plaza, Madison, WI 53719

(608) 664-3750

[Unsubscribe](#)





ASSOCIATION OF  
FAMILY AND  
CONCILIATION COURTS



eNEWS

VOL. 12 NO. 6  
JUNE 2017

## **AFCC 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – E2M Updates**

Kristin Doeberl and Liana Shelby are the outgoing AFCC Fellows for the 2016-2017 year, and as part of the Fellowship, they learned about AFCC (specifically its structure and leadership) throughout the year by attending conferences and Board meetings, participating in the *Guidelines for Social Science Research in Family Law* Task Force work, and presenting at the Boston conference. Additionally, the two formed the Early to Mid-Career (E2M) Networking Group.

Prior to the conference, Kristin and Liana had recruited almost 20 members for the group with the assistance of other senior members and AFCC's Board of Directors. The Boston conference offered an opportunity to meet and mingle with interested E2M members with whom they had been corresponding via email. They were also able to introduce the group to the larger AFCC community and encourage new members to join. Over the course of the four-day conference, E2M held several events, including:

### **E2M Buttons**

“Ask me about E2M” buttons were a hit! All Board members, as well as the majority of E2M members, wore the buttons to identify themselves as someone to ask about the group.

### **Luncheon Table**

Two tables were reserved near the front of the stage for E2M members and had a great turnout, including new prospective members.

### **Dine-Around**

On Thursday night, a great group (including more new, prospective members!) joined Kristin and Liana for dinner at Sonsie on Newbury Street. It was a really nice opportunity to get to know each other, and to learn more about each E2M member's work, interests, and professional experiences.

### **Meeting**

There was also a meeting on Friday morning at 7:15 am, with nearly 20 people in attendance! Everyone introduced themselves, shared their reasons for wanting to join the group, and spoke about what they hoped to get out of the E2M group.

Moving forward, Liana and Kristin are hoping to continue to develop the E2M group by growing its membership, implementing many of the ideas shared during the conference, and creating networking opportunities for members. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in joining the E2M group, please contact either Kristin ([kdoeberl@gmail.com](mailto:kdoeberl@gmail.com)) or Liana ([liana\\_shelby@williamjames.edu](mailto:liana_shelby@williamjames.edu)) - they would be more than happy to talk to you or them about the group.

Thank you to all the E2M members for expressing interest in the group and attending our events during the conference – the group would not have been such a success without you!





An interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

### **Conference Program Committee**

Hon. Denise McColley, Co-chair  
Matthew Sullivan, PhD, Co-chair  
Larry Braunstein, JD  
Bud Dale, PhD, JD  
Dan Pickar, PhD, ABPP  
Michael Saini, PhD  
Arnie Shienvold, PhD  
Mary Ferriter, JD  
Donna Feinberg, LICSW  
Lesley Goldsmith, JD  
Robin Deutsch, PhD, ABPP

### **Conference Shepherds**

Sarah Ash  
Janice Black  
Savannah Burke  
Patrick Fleming  
Chris Jones  
Lisa Kent  
Carol Lynn May  
Paul McVicker  
Mindy Milberg  
Craig Miller  
Andra Norberg  
Katherine Patridge  
Kate Potter  
Olivia Scucci  
Julia Sollenberger  
LeeAnn Lehman





ASSOCIATION OF  
FAMILY AND  
CONCILIATION COURTS



eNEWS

VOL. 12 NO. 6  
JUNE 2017

## Webinar Brown Bag lunch

Dodge County Family Court Counselling hosted an AFCC brown bag lunch webinar event on April 12, 2017 for the Matthew Sullivan presentation on Visitation Resistance. The event was advertised by the Dodge County Bar Association and personal invitations were sent via email to the Judges and local Family Court attorneys. There was no cost to attend and everyone was encouraged to bring their own lunch. Attendees were notified certificates of attendance would not be issued.

The event was held at the Dodge County Justice Facility located in Juneau, Wisconsin in the Jury Assembly room. There were two projectors; one with Dr. Sullivan and the other with his PowerPoint. The PowerPoint slides were subsequently sent out to those in attendance: Judges, Guardians ad Litem, Family Court Counselling staff, and Family Court Attorneys. After the video presentation there was approximately a one-hour live discussion on the issues.

Overall, it was a successful first event and positive feedback was received from all in attendance. One Judge remarked on the timeliness of the event based on a case he had pending. One suggestion was to schedule future events at the same time each month, preferably on a Friday. For example, hosting an event at noon on the 2nd Friday of every month. As the webinars are archived for members to access, this is possible, although the ability to submit questions to the presenter would be lost.



An interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

### Scholarship Fund Contributors 2016-2017

#### Key Club (\$5,000+)

Robert Simon

#### Diamond (\$1,000–\$4,999)

AZ Chapter of AFCC

Leslie Drozd

In honor of Kathryn Kuehnle

Mary Ferriter

Forrest Mosten

Peter Salem

Philip Stahl

#### Platinum (\$500–\$999)

Peter Boshier

Diana Bryant

Annette Burns

CO Chapter of AFCC

Dianna Gould-Saltman

Mary Ann Grilli

MA Chapter of AFCC

Kathleen McNamara

Kids Services

Arnold Shienvold

William Howe

#### Gold (\$250–\$499)

Karen Adam

Nicholas Bala

Ann Bauer

Lawrence Braunstein

Dolores Bomrad

Phil Bushard

Robin Deutsch

In honor of Ruth Stern

Donald Eisenberg

Samuel Ferrara

Bartbara Fidler

Larry Fong

Beth Harrington

IL Chapter of AFCC

Sherrie Kibler-Sanchez

#### Gold (continued)

David Martindale

Mindy Mitnick

Daniel O'Leary

Stacey Platt

Marsha Pruett

In honor of Ruth Stern

Donna Rachwal

Arline Rotman

Michael Saini

Robert Smith

Susan Stahl

Larry Swall

WI Chapter of AFCC

#### Silver (\$100–\$249)

Richard Altman

Anonymous

Liz Baker

Gitu Bhatia

Bruce Bishop

Christy Bradshaw Schmidt

Kelly Browe Olson

Linda Cavallero

Nick Child

In honor of Dr Kirk Weir

Andrea Clark

patti cross

Milfred Dale

Bill Eddy

William and Amy Fee

Donna Feinberg

Linda Fidnick

Linda Fieldstone

Jay Flens

Susan Gallagher

Geoffrey Graybill

Lyn Greenberg

Ilona Grenadier

Lesley Goldsmith

Donald Gordon

Jacqueline Hagerott



An interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

**Silver (continued)**

Loree Hodgson-Harris  
 Leslye Hunter  
 Casey Kelliher  
 Paula Lawhon  
 Denise McColley  
 Cary Mogerma  
 Jennifer Neoh  
 Ann Ordway  
 Daniel Pickar  
 Sol Rappaport  
 Allen Ryen  
 David Sacks  
 In honor of Mary Fe  
 Michael Saini  
 Andrew Schepard  
 John Scialli  
 Hugh Starnes  
 Jenny Stevens  
 Matthew Sullivan  
 Larry Swall  
 Arnold Swartz  
 Robin Timme  
 Jeffrey Wittmann  
 Robert Zibbell  
 Zena Zumeta

**Bronze (\$50–\$99)**

Michael Aaron  
 Allen Bailey  
 Peter Baston  
 Bruce Bishop  
 Aza Butler  
 Lesley Caldwell Matthewson  
 John Carmody  
 Megan Christopher  
 Sherilyn Connor  
 Beth Crawford  
 Edith Croxen  
 Sid Davis  
 Madelin Diaz  
 Margaret Donnelly

**Bronze (continued)**

Kay Feeney  
 Linda Fidnick  
 Gregory Firestone  
 Lynn Galbraith-Wilson  
 Alan Geismer  
 Ramona Gonzalez  
 Rod Hooper  
 Jeffrey Keller  
 Matthew Kiernan  
 Lynda Limon  
 Ernestina Martinez  
 James Ottesen  
 Mary Polson  
 Isolina Ricci  
 Kate Rockas  
 Janice Rosa  
 Karen Rosenthal  
 Jeannette Savoie  
 Bruce Seidner  
 Leslie Shear  
 John Stephens  
 Scott Wagenblast  
 Don Wichert  
 In honor of the Chicago Cubs

**Contributors**

Robert Ackley  
 Thomas Alongi  
 Katherine Andre  
 Shannon Bradley  
 Patricia Bond  
 Margaret Brinig  
 Martin Brown  
 Mark Busby  
 Cynthia Callahan  
 William Casey  
 Brent Cashatt  
 Anne Elshama  
 Talia Eisenstein  
 Lisa Fears  
 L. Ernestine Fields  
 Greg Frazier



An interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

**Contributors (continued)**

Lynn Gaffigan  
Carol Golly  
Merrill Graham  
Leslie Gresham  
Marisa Guiliani-O'Keefe  
Richard Halloran  
Rory Hardy  
Linda Hayes  
Janet Heppard  
Julie Jackson  
Adrian Julian  
John Kearney  
Jan Keirse  
Peter Krabman  
Jill Lake  
Faye Lovrinic  
Amal Madani  
David Masterman  
Regina Marshall  
Bernard Mayer  
Kathleen McCarther  
Paul McVicker  
Theresa Mleczko  
Donna Munson  
Jamie Niesen  
Mary Ellen Niles Howard  
Dana Oertel  
Michael Ollom  
Cynthia Rote  
Holly Panetta  
Erin Pash  
Prathamesh D Popat  
Barbara Rath  
Bill Rogers  
Donnalee Sarda  
Rachel Seidman  
Steven Shaver  
Amy Skogerson  
Jennifer Stara  
Karen Taylor  
Charles Ullman  
Pamela Waggoner

**Contributors (continued)**

Ramona Wildman  
Mark Wilkins  
Karen Wood